



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **MAINE DISTRICT OFFICE**

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### **GREG GOULD RECEIVES WOMEN IN BUSINESS ADVOCACY AWARD FROM THE SBA**

Augusta, Maine -- Gregory A. Gould, a Certified Business Counselor with the Maine Small Business Development Center (Maine SBDC) at the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments, is the recipient of the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 2004 Women in Business Advocate of the Year award. Greg Gould was nominated for the award by John Massaua, State Director of the Maine Small Business Development Center.

Since joining the Maine SBDC in 2001, Gould has counseled 153 female entrepreneurs, assisted women in business obtain \$3.3 million in capital, helped create 39 new women owned businesses and devoted countless hours to promoting women business ownership.

The Maine SBDC provides quality, one-on-one counseling to Maine's small business community at no cost to potential and existing business owners and managers. Gould's background includes ten years of experience in sales, marketing and finance, plus several years in general management for a family automobile business in Maine.

Gould holds a BS in Marketing as well as an MBA with concentrations in Financial Management and Labor Relations, from the University of Rhode Island and was recently certified with the Kauffman Foundation as a FastTrac Facilitator.

A satisfied, Franklin County based, woman client states, "Greg Gould was extremely helpful in assisting me to create and finalize a business plan for a new business. His knowledge base was excellent and I was able to start a business thanks to his assistance. "

Gould will be honored at the SBA awards celebration, May 25<sup>th</sup> at Spectacular Event Center in Bangor. For information on the winners or the award celebration, contact Bonnie Erickson at 622-8275 or Sandra Fontaine at 622-8381.